

Appendix Q — Review of Land Use Plan Decisions Against the Effects of the Preferred Alternative

BLM

Changes would only be necessary if implementing any aspect of the Preferred Alternative would result in social, environmental or economic effects that would preclude accomplishment of one or more of the RMP objectives. In such a situation, BLM would have to determine if the precluded RMP objectives should be changed through the plan amendment process to accommodate the oil and gas objectives or if oil and gas objectives should be changed to accomplish the other RMP objectives.

Buffalo RMP

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| Cultural Resources | | |
| ➤ Protect, preserve, interpret, and manage significant cultural resources for their informational, educational, scientific, and recreational values. | Significant cultural resources can be protected with lease notices, standard lease terms and conditions or with COA attached to the APD | Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. |
| ➤ Bozeman trail: To preserve historic values on significant trail segments on BLM-administered public surface and to preserve such values on other segments when affected by federal minerals development. | The Bozeman Trail can be protected with existing stipulations or with COA attached to the APD. | |
| ➤ The Crazy Woman battle site will be managed to preserve the historic values at the site and to develop cooperative interpretation in partnership with the Wyoming State Parks and Historic Sites. Future management actions include planning and developing an interpretive site and periodic monitoring. | The Crazy Woman battle site can be protected with existing stipulations or with COA attached to the APD. | |
| ➤ Cantonment Reno will be managed to preserve significant historic remains and scientific potential, to promote historic research, and to develop an interpretation area to protect and enhance the visitor's awareness of the history of the area. | The Cantonment Reno site can be protected with existing stipulations or with COA attached to the APD. | |

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| ➤ Site-specific inventories for cultural resources are required before any surface disturbing activities can begin. Adverse effects on significant resources are mitigated, or the resources themselves are avoided. Sites listed on, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are protected. | FEIS acknowledges that inventories will be conducted prior to surface disturbance. | |
| Lands and Realty | | |
| ➤ Locate transmission lines and transportation facilities to the extent feasible within identified corridors | The FEIS does not authorize specific transmission lines, pipelines or roads. Use of corridors for these facilities will be considered during the permit process to the extent feasible | Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| Geology and Mineral Resources | | |
| ➤ Maintain or enhance opportunities for mineral exploration and development while maintaining other resource values. | <p>The FEIS evaluates a proposal to develop federal leases. Such an action is in conformance with these management decisions and objectives, though significant mineral resources are currently unavailable for development and thus may not be efficiently used at this time.</p> <p>Some new conditions of use (mitigation measures) have been implemented since the 1985 RMP.</p> <p>The Proposed Plan Amendments do not include changes to the leasing allocation decisions, as the FEIS does not address leasing.</p> | The RMP should be amended to allow oil and gas exploration and development at the level analyzed in the FEIS to make more efficient use of the mineral resource and to adopt current conditions of use. |
| ➤ BLM will provide for the efficient use of the mineral resource. | | |
| ➤ Continue to lease and allow development of federal oil and gas in the Buffalo Field Office Area. | | |
| Air quality | | |
| ➤ Maintain or enhance air quality, protect public health and safety and sensitive natural resources, and minimize emissions that could result in acid rain, violations of air quality standards, or reduced visibility. | The FEIS includes a detailed analysis of air quality impacts, identifies mitigation options and considers two methods to reduce emissions from compressor stations. | Permitting agencies have adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. As long as conditions of use are required as necessary, the impacts from the level of oil and gas |

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| ➤ Any BLM-initiated actions or authorizations that result in air quality or visibility deterioration are conditioned to avoid violating Wyoming and national air quality standards. This is done through coordinating BLM-managed activities with the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). | The FEIS acknowledges that, as part of the permit approval process, the air quality regulatory agencies would prepare additional analysis, conduct monitoring and require mitigation as needed to ensure compliance with all applicable standards before permits would be approved. | operations analyzed in the FEIS would not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| ➤ Dust control measures are required to be taken to increase visibility and reduce particulate impacts for all construction and other surface-disturbing activities. Air quality standards are monitored by the WDEQ. | The FEIS includes an analytical assumption that some control of fugitive dust will be achieved during construction, but that control of all fugitive dust may not be achievable. Dust control measures would be considered during the permitting process and required where necessary to ensure compliance with the applicable standards. | The current decision includes an across the board dust control requirement that is independent of air quality standards and the roles and responsibilities of the permitting agencies. Dust control measures are more appropriately considered as mitigation options (see Chapter 4, FEIS). That part of the decision should be deleted from the RMP by amendment. |
| Recreation | | |
| ➤ Provide outdoor recreational opportunities on BLM administered public land while providing for resource protection, visitor services, and the health and safety of public land visitors. | The FEIS documents the effects of oil and gas development on recreation resources. Lands with special recreation values would still be protected by a NSO stipulation. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| ➤ Prohibit surface disturbance or occupancy in the Red Wall/Hole in the Wall area, within the Middle Fork Canyon and within ½ mile of the Dry Creek Petrified Tree area. | | |
| Visual Resources | | |
| ➤ Maintain or improve scenic values, visual quality, and establish visual resource management priorities in conjunction with other resource values. | The FEIS documents the effects of the proposed action on visual resources. The management decision for visual resources provides for management in accordance with the VRM objectives, which will be considered when making site-specific decisions about roads, pads and related facilities. | While BLM has the authority to protect state and federal highways per the lease notice, the RMP should more clearly identify BLM's objectives on this matter. This objective should be considered for specific state and federal highways as a lease stipulation or CSU or COA in a subsequent RMP amendment. |
| ➤ Visual resources are managed in accordance with objectives for visual resource management (VRM) classes that have been assigned to the planning area. No activity or occupancy is allowed within 200 feet of the edge of state and federal highways. | The FEIS describes lease notice #1, which gives BLM authority | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will |

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Facilities or structures such as power lines, oil wells, and storage tanks are required to be screened, painted, and designed to blend with the surrounding landscape except where safety indicates otherwise. Any facilities or structures proposed in or near WSAs will be designed so as not to impair wilderness suitability. | to protect certain resources, including state and federal highways. | be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| Water Resources | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain or improve surface and groundwater quality consistent with existing and anticipated uses and applicable state and federal water quality standards. ➤ Provide for availability of water to facilitate authorized uses, and to minimize harmful consequences of erosion and surface runoff from BLM-administered public land. | <p>The FEIS includes a detailed analysis of water quality impacts, identifies mitigation options and considers alternative water handling methods to reduce water quality impacts.</p> <p>The FEIS describes lease notice #1, which gives BLM authority to protect certain resources, including surface water and/or riparian areas.</p> <p>The FEIS acknowledges that, as part of the permit approval process, the water quality regulatory agencies would conduct monitoring and require mitigation as needed to ensure compliance with all applicable standards before permits would be approved. All potential exceedences of the established water quality standards would be avoided in this manner.</p> | Permitting agencies have adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| Soil Resources | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain soil cover and productivity and provide for improvement in areas where soil productivity may be below potential on BLM-administered public land surface. ➤ Prohibit surface disturbance or occupancy within areas of severe erosion hazard from March 1 through June 15. ➤ Prohibit surface disturbance within 500' of any spring, reservoir, water well or perennial stream. | <p>The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to soils, identifies mitigation measures and includes stipulations to protect soil resources, such as severe erosion hazard areas and water sources.</p> | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| Livestock Grazing | | |
| ➤ Maintain or improve forage production and range condition to provide a sustainable resource base for livestock grazing on the public lands while improving wildlife habitat and watershed. | The FEIS includes an analysis of the impacts to livestock uses. Overall, the impacts to livestock uses would not likely affect the availability of land and forage for livestock use. | Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| Paleontology resources | | |
| ➤ Manage paleontological resources that are part of the BLM administered public land surface estate for their informational, educational, scientific, public, and recreational uses. | The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to paleontological resources. Significant resources can be protected with lease notices, standard lease terms and conditions or with COA attached to the APD. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| Threatened, Endangered, and Candidate Species Protection | | |
| ➤ Maintain biological diversity of plant and animal species. | The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to these species. The Biological Opinion (BO) issued by the US Fish and Wildlife Service concludes that the development of oil and gas resources to the level analyzed in the FEIS would not jeopardize these species if the conditions described in the BO are satisfied. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| ➤ Support WGFD strategic plan population objective levels to the extent practical and to the extent consistent with BLM multiple use management requirements. | | |
| ➤ Maintain, and where possible, improve forage production and quality of rangelands, fisheries, and wildlife habitat. | | |
| ➤ To the extent possible, provide habitat for threatened and endangered and special status plant and animal species on all public lands in compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and approved recovery plans. | | |
| Sensitive Plants | | |
| ➤ Maintain biological diversity of plant and animal species. | The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to these species and | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will |

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support WGFD strategic plan population objective levels to the extent practical and to the extent consistent with BLM multiple use management requirements. | <p>resource values. A special Lease Notice provides BLM authority to protect special status species of plants and animals. These objectives will be further considered during the subsequent NEPA analysis to be conducted prior to permit approval of wells and related facilities. BLM will apply mitigation as COA to help meet these goals.</p> | <p>be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain, and where possible, improve forage production and quality of rangelands, fisheries, and wildlife habitat | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To the extent possible, provide habitat for threatened and endangered and special status plant and animal species on all public lands in compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and approved recovery plans. | | |
| Wildlife Habitat Management | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain biological diversity of plant and animal species. | <p>The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to these species and values. These objectives will be further considered during the subsequent NEPA analysis to be conducted prior to permit approval of wells and related facilities. BLM will apply mitigation as COA to help meet these goals.</p> | <p>BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support WGFD strategic plan population objective levels to the extent practical and to the extent consistent with BLM multiple use management requirements. | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Maintain, and where possible, improve forage production and quality of rangelands, fisheries, and wildlife habitat. | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To the extent possible, provide habitat for threatened and endangered and special status plant and animal species on all public lands in compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and approved recovery plans. | | |

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| Riparian Areas | | |
| ➤ Riparian areas and wetlands in less than proper functioning condition will be improved. The goal is to create, improve, or maintain existing riparian and wetland areas for waterfowl such as ducks, geese, and shorebirds; warm- and cold-water fish; and other wildlife species that depend on these areas for their health and well being. | The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to these resource values. These objectives will be further considered during the subsequent NEPA analysis to be conducted prior to permit approval of wells and related facilities. BLM will apply mitigation as COA to help meet these goals. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |

Conclusion for Buffalo RMP: BLM has carefully reviewed Chapter 4 relative to the current land use plan objectives for the BFO and determined that with the current stipulations and new mitigation measures, the Preferred Alternative would not result in any social, environmental or economic effects that would preclude accomplishment of one or more of the RMP objectives as long as appropriate conditions of use are required. BLM and permitting agencies have adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Thus, changes to the RMP objectives are not warranted though a change in the RMP to allow oil and gas exploration and development at the level analyzed in the FEIS to make more efficient use of the mineral resource, and to adopt current conditions of use is appropriate.

Platte River RMP

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| Cultural Resources | | |
| ➤ Cultural resource management will focus on the historic Bozeman Trail and several stage stations along its route. The trail segments will be protected through ORV closures and prohibition of surface disturbance. | The Bozeman Trail can be protected with existing stipulations or with COA attached to the APD. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| ➤ Bozeman Trail - No surface development will be permitted on the certain parcels (refer to the Platte River RMP for details) along the Bozeman Trail in Converse County (1,030 acres). Each trail segment in C3 has been individually evaluated according to the “Guidelines for the Evaluation of Historical Wagon Trails” of the Casper District and Wyoming State Office, BLM. Trail segments that may be located will be protected until their significance is evaluated | | |
| Energy and Mineral Resources | | |
| ➤ Continue to lease and allow development of | The FEIS evaluates a | The RMP should be |

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| federal oil and gas in the Buffalo Field Office Area. | proposal to develop federal leases. Such an action is in conformance with the management decision and objectives, though significant mineral resources are currently unavailable for development and thus may not be efficiently used at this time. Some new conditions of use (mitigation measures) have been implemented since the 1985 RMP. The Proposed Plan Amendments do not include changes to the leasing allocation decisions, as the FEIS does not address leasing. | amended to allow oil and gas exploration and development at the level analyzed in the FEIS to make more efficient use of the mineral resource and to adopt current conditions of use. |
| Weed and Pest Control | | |
| ➤ We will continue the existing weed and grasshopper control programs. | The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to vegetation, including noxious weeds. Reclamation measures, to be applied as COA are also discussed. This decision simply acknowledges BLM's intent to continue actions to control weeds and grasshoppers, which occur as a result of many factors, many beyond the scope of the FEIS. No specific objectives have been identified. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision. |
| Visual Resource Management | | |
| ➤ The BLM's visual resource management (VRM) system will be applied in the PRRA where required to mitigate impacts from surface development. | The FEIS documents the effects of the proposed action on visual resources. Visual resources will be considered when making site-specific decisions about roads, pads and related facilities and mitigated based on a site-specific analysis. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the |

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| | | objectives. |
| Black-footed Ferret Habitat | | |
| ➤ No surface development will be allowed within prairie dog towns until it is determined that a development proposal will not adversely affect the black-footed ferret. Such determination will be made through a biological assessment by the BLM or through consultation with the USFWS under Section 7 of the ESA. | The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to special status species. The Biological Opinion (BO) issued by the US Fish and Wildlife Service concludes that the development of oil and gas resources to the level analyzed in the FEIS would not jeopardize these species if the conditions described in the BO are satisfied. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| Wildlife | | |
| ➤ Wildlife management will stress continued monitoring of sage grouse strutting grounds and case-by-case implementation of stipulations on rights-of-way and proposed mineral activity to protect important habitat. We will continue to check prairie dog towns for ferrets and burrowing owls, since the Ross Management Unit has high potential for these species. | The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to these species and values. These objectives will be further considered during the subsequent NEPA analysis to be conducted prior to permit approval of wells and related facilities. BLM will apply mitigation as COA to help meet these goals. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| Soil, Water, and Air | | |
| ➤ The level of soil, water and air management for this unit will be low except for application of resource protection stipulations on historic segments. Decisions that constrain development may be implemented case by case in the rest of the unit. | The FEIS includes an analysis of impacts to soil, water, and air quality. It identifies mitigation measures and includes stipulations to protect soil resources, water sources and quality and air resources. | BLM and permitting agencies have adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objective. |
| ➤ For the protection of surface water, surface development will be prohibited in the following areas: within ¼ mile of the North Platte River; within 500 feet of live streams, lakes, reservoirs, and canals and associated | This protection measure is attached to leases under LN #1. | Permitting agencies have adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the |

| RMP Objectives/decisions | Evaluation | Determination |
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| riparian habitat; and within 500 feet of water wells, springs, or artesian and flowing wells. | | analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |
| Slope Restrictions | | |
| ➤ No occupancy or other surface disturbance is allowed on slopes of more than 25 percent without permission from the authorized officer. When development is proposed on slopes of more than 25 percent, engineered drawings for construction, drainage design, and final contours proposed after rehabilitation will be required. No occupancy will be allowed on slopes over 25 percent in the South Bighorns. | This restriction is attached to leases under LN #1. | BLM has adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Based on the analysis described in the FEIS, implementing the Preferred Alternative does not preclude implementation of the decision and accomplishment of the objectives. |

Conclusion for Platte River RMP: BLM has carefully reviewed Chapter 4 relative to the current land use plan objectives for the CFO and determined that with the current stipulations and new mitigation measures, the Preferred Alternative would not result in any social, environmental or economic effects that would preclude accomplishment of one or more of the RMP objectives as long as appropriate conditions of use are required. BLM and permitting agencies have adequate authority and reasonable mitigation measures will be applied as needed. Thus, changes to the RMP objectives are not warranted though a change in the RMP to allow oil and gas exploration and development at the level analyzed in the FEIS and to adopt current conditions of use is appropriate.

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Thunder Basin National Grassland LRMP

On July 31, 2002 a ROD for the FEIS and LRMP Revision for the TBNG was issued making the Revised 2001 Plan effective. Goals, Objectives, Standards, and Guidelines in the 2001 Plan apply to all activities on the TBNG; some are particular to oil and gas leasing. Goals and Objectives, which relate particularly to oil and gas leasing, are as follows:

- Goal 1.a: Objective 5. Throughout the life of the LRMP, ensure proper plugging of abandoned wells to prevent cross contamination of aquifers (for example, seismograph holes, water wells, etc.).
- Goal 2.b: Mineral and Energy Resources Objective 1. Ensure reclamation provisions of operating plans are completed to standard.

- Goal 2.b: Mineral and Energy Resources Objective 2. Honor all valid existing legal mineral rights.

Grassland-wide Standards and Guidelines, which resulted in oil and gas leasing stipulations, are as follows:

- B. Water: number 14. Locate activities and facilities away from the water's edge or outside the riparian areas, woody draws, wetlands, and floodplains unless alternatives have been assessed and determined to be more environmentally damaging. If it is necessary to locate activities or facilities in these areas, then:
 - Deposit no waste material (silt, sand, gravel, soil, slash, debris, chemical, or other material) below high-water lines, in riparian areas, in the areas immediately adjacent to riparian areas or in natural drainage ways (draws, land surface depressions or other areas where overland flow concentrates and flows directly into streams or lakes).
 - Prohibit deposition of soil material in natural drainage ways.
 - Locate the lower edge of disturbed or deposited soil banks outside the active floodplain.
 - Prohibit stockpiling of topsoil or any other disturbed soil in the active floodplain.
 - Locate drilling mud pits outside riparian areas, wetlands, and floodplains. If location is unavoidable in these areas, seal and dike all pits to prevent leakage.
 - Rehabilitate gravel pits, if located in riparian zones, to simulate a natural riparian/aquatic situation. **Guideline**
- C. Soils: number 4. Prohibit soil-disturbing activities (for example, road construction, well pad construction) on slopes greater than 40 percent and on soils susceptible to mass failure. **Guideline**
- E. Paleontological Resources: number 1. Protect key paleontological resources (Classes 3, 4, and 5 of the Fossil Potential Classification) from disturbance, or mitigate the effects of disturbance, to conserve scientific, interpretive, and legacy values. **Standard**
- E. Paleontological Resources: number 3. Prior to ground-disturbing activities, conduct paleontological surveys in any area where there is a high potential to encounter these resources according to the process outlined in Appendix J. **Standard**
- F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 14. To help reduce adverse impacts to breeding sharp-tailed grouse and their display grounds, prohibit construction of new facilities within 0.25 miles of active display grounds. A display ground is no longer considered active if it is known to have been unoccupied during the current or most recent breeding season. This does not apply to pipelines, fences, windmills, and underground utilities. **Standard**
- F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 15. To help reduce disturbances to breeding and nesting sharp-tailed grouse, do not authorize the following activities within 1.0 mile of active display grounds from March 1 to June 15:
 - Construction (e.g., roads, water impoundments, pipelines, utilities, oil and gas facilities, fencing),
 - Reclamation,
 - Gravel mining operations,
 - Seismic exploration,

- Oil and gas drilling,
- Drilling of water wells,
- Permitted recreation events,
- Training of hunting dogs. **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 18. In prairie dog colonies known or thought to be occupied by black-footed ferrets, limit oil and gas development to one location per 80 acres to help maintain suitable ferret habitat. **Standard**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 19. To help provide suitable habitat for black-footed ferrets and their young during the breeding and whelping seasons, prohibit the following activities within prairie dog colonies, or those portions of larger colonies, occupied or thought to be occupied by black-footed ferrets from March 1 through August 31:
- Construction (for example, roads, water impoundments, oil and gas facilities),
- Reclamation,
- Gravel mining operations,
- Drilling of water wells,
- Oil and gas drilling. **Standard**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 21. Any net loss of suitable black-footed ferret habitat as a result of prairie dog poisoning or development of new facilities within colonies must be replaced with suitable ferret habitat. This is based on the amount of suitable habitat available when the poisoning or development is proposed to occur. **Standard**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 22. For routine maintenance, access to oil and gas facilities in prairie dog colonies occupied or thought to be occupied by black-footed ferrets should be limited to daylight hours. This does not apply to emergency repairs. **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 25. To help maintain suitable nesting habitat for mountain plover, prohibit development of new facilities within 0.25 miles of known mountain plover nests or nesting areas. This does not apply to pipelines, fences, and underground utilities. **Standard**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 26. To help maintain occupied nesting and brooding habitat on black-tailed prairie dog colonies, new oil and gas development will be limited to one well per 80 acres within occupied habitat. Cumulatively, structure and facility development will not occur on more than 2 percent of the occupied mountain plover nesting habitat in each prairie dog colony. **Standard**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 27. Any net loss of suitable and occupied mountain plover habitat as a result of prairie dog poisoning or development of new facilities within prairie dog colonies will be replaced within the year by concurrent expansion of suitable plover habitat or, in some cases, by enhanced management and protection of occupied plover habitat elsewhere on or near the national grassland. The amount of habitat loss is based on the amount of suitable and occupied habitat available prior to prairie dog dispersal in the year of the poisoning or development. **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 28. To help reduce disturbances and risks to nesting mountain plover, prohibit the following activities in plover nesting areas or within 0.25 miles of plover nests from March 15 through July 31:
- Construction (for example, roads, water impoundments, oil and gas facilities),

- Reclamation,
- Seismic exploration,
- Gravel mining operations,
- Oil and gas drilling,
- Drilling of water wells
- Prescribed burning. **Standard**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 29. To help reduce disturbances and risks to nesting mountain plover, do not authorize the following activities in plover nesting areas or within 0.25 miles of plover nests from March 15 through July 31:
- Construction (e.g., pipelines, utilities, fencing),
- Workover operations for maintenance of oil and gas wells,
- Permitted recreation events involving large groups of people,
- Grasshopper spraying,
- Prairie dog shooting (in consultation with state wildlife agencies and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 30. To help reduce risks to mountain plover, access to oil and gas facilities in occupied mountain plover habitat for routine maintenance should be limited to once per 24-hour period and occur between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Duration of maintenance activities should not extend beyond 1 hour when possible. This does not apply to travel for emergency repairs. **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 46. To help reduce adverse impacts to breeding sage grouse and their display grounds, prohibit construction of new oil and gas facilities within 0.25 miles of active display grounds. A display ground is no longer considered active if it is known to have been unoccupied during the past five breeding seasons. This does not apply to pipelines and underground utilities. **Standard**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 47. To help reduce disturbances to nesting sage grouse, prohibit the following activities within 2.0 miles of active display grounds from March 1 to June 15:
- Construction (for example, roads, water impoundments, oil and gas facilities),
- Reclamation,
- Gravel mining operations,
- Drilling of water wells,
- Oil and gas drilling,
- Training of hunting dogs. **Standard**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 48. To reduce disturbances to nesting sage grouse, do not authorize the following activities within 2.0 miles of active display grounds from March 1 to June 15:
- Construction (e.g., pipelines, utilities, fencing),
- Seismic exploration,

- Workover operations for maintenance of oil and gas wells,
- Permitted recreation events involving large groups of people. **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 49. To help prevent reproductive failure, limit noise on sage grouse display grounds from nearby facilities and activities to 49 decibels (10 dBA above background noise) from March 1 to June 15. **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 51. When constructing facilities or structures within 2 miles of a sage grouse active display ground, design them to discourage raptor perching by maintaining a low profile or using perch inhibitors. **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 52. Prohibit development or operations of facilities within 2 miles of a sage grouse display ground if these activities would exceed a noise level of more than 10 decibels above the background noise level (39 db), at 800 feet from the noise source, from March 1 to June 15. **Guideline**.
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 69. To reduce risks and habitat loss for prairie dogs and other wildlife species closely associated with prairie dog colonies, align new roads outside prairie dog colonies. If it is necessary to place a new road in a prairie dog colony, minimize the amount of road within the colony to the extent that soil, drainage, topographical, and other physical factors will allow. **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 70. To reduce disturbances to swift fox during the breeding and whelping seasons, prohibit the following activities within 0.25 miles of their dens from March 1 to August 31:
 - Construction (e.g., roads, water impoundments, oil and gas facilities),
 - Reclamation,
 - Gravel mining operations,
 - Drilling of water wells,
 - Oil and gas drilling. **Standard**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 71. To reduce disturbances to swift fox during the breeding and whelping seasons, do not authorize the following activities within 0.25 miles of their dens from March 1 to August 31:
 - Construction (e.g., pipelines, utilities, fencing),
 - Seismic exploration,
 - Workover operations for maintenance of oil and gas wells,
 - Permitted recreation events involving large groups of people. **Guideline**
 - F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 76. To help prevent abandonment, reproductive failure or nest destruction, prohibit development of new facilities within the minimum distances (line of sight) of active raptor nests and winter roost sites as specified in the following table. For the bald eagle, golden eagle, merlin, ferruginous hawk, and Swainson's hawk, a nest is no longer considered active if it is known to have been unoccupied for the last 7 years. For the burrowing owl and other raptor species, a nest is no longer considered active if it is known to have been unoccupied during the current or most recent nesting season. This does not apply to pipelines, fences, and underground utilities. **Standard**

| Species and Habitat | Minimum Distance (miles) |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bald eagle nest | 1.0 |
| Bald eagle winter roost area | 1.0 |
| Golden eagle nest | 0.25 |
| Merlin nest | 0.25 |
| Ferruginous hawk nest | 0.25 |
| Swainson's hawk nest | 0.25 |
| Burrowing owl nest | 0.25 |
| Nests of other raptors | 0.125 |

- F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 77. To help reduce disturbances to nesting and wintering raptors, prohibit the following activities within the minimum distances (line of sight) of active raptor nests and winter roost areas during the dates specified in the table below:

- Construction (e.g., roads, water impoundments, oil and gas facilities),
- Reclamation,
- Gravel mining operations,
- Drilling of water wells,
- Oil and gas drilling,
- Timber harvest and fuel treatments
- Pre-commercial thinning. **Standard**

| Species and Habitat | Minimum Distance (miles) and Dates |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Bald eagle nest | 1.0 from 2/1 to 7/31 |
| Bald eagle winter roost area | 1.0 from 11/1 to 3/31 |
| Golden eagle nest | 0.50 from 2/1 to 7/31 |
| Merlin nest | 0.50 from 4/1 to 8/15 |
| Ferruginous hawk nest | 0.50 from 3/1 to 7/31 |
| Swainson's hawk nest | 0.50 from 3/1 to 7/31 |
| Burrowing owl nest | 0.25 from 4/15 to 8/31 |
| Nests of other raptors | 0.125 from 2/1 to 7/31 ^a |
| Note: | |
| a. Dates may vary depending on the species | |

- F. Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants: number 78. To help reduce disturbances to nesting and wintering raptors, do not authorize the following activities within the minimum distances (line of sight) of active raptor nests and winter roost areas during the dates specified in the previous table:

- Construction (e.g., pipelines, utilities, fencing),

- Seismic exploration,
- Workover operations for maintenance of oil and gas,
- Fuelwood cutting,
- Permitted recreation events involving large groups of people. **Guideline**
 - L. Scenery Management: number 1. Manage activities to be consistent with the scenic integrity objective(s), as referenced by the Adopted Scenic Integrity Objective map in Chapter 2. **Guideline**

Management Area Standards and Guidelines, which resulted in oil and gas leasing stipulations, are as follows:

- Management Area 3.68, Big Game, General number 2. Limit activities during big game wintering from December 15 through March 15 if they would reduce habitat effectiveness. **Guideline**
- Management Area 3.68, Big Game, General number 3. Limit activities during elk parturition from May 1 through June 30 if they would reduce habitat effectiveness. **Guideline**

Conclusion for TBNG LRMP: Based on careful review of Chapter 4 relative to the current LRMP goals and objectives for the TBNG, the Forest Service has determined that within the analyzed level of oil and gas development, resource management objectives for the TBNG LRMP will be achieved. Unique aspects of CBM will be adequately mitigated using COA and existing lease stipulations, lease notices, and current land use allocations in the Revised TBNG LRMP. Therefore, there is no need to modify or add any Standards and Guidelines to the 2002 Revised TBNG LRMP in order to implement the Preferred Alternative.